

LOUISVILLE JOURNAL

Printed and Published by PRENTICE, HENDERSON, & OSBORNE.

Green Street, between Third and Fourth.

PAUL R. PRENTICE, Editors.

TUESDAY AUGUST 11, 1863.

THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.—About three weeks ago, we learned that a highly respectable citizen of this State, who had just visited her son in prison at Fort Delaware, forty miles from Philadelphia, stated as a matter of personal knowledge, gained from personal observation, that the treatment of the prisoners was most revolting, great numbers being packed together within wholly insufficient spaces, and their food meagerly being paraded out for them, as it would be for swine, into a trough extending along the middle of the floor. We were much astonished to hear this statement, alleged to have come directly from so respectable a source, for we had possessed good opportunities to learn something as to the treatment of rebel-prisoners at various points, and we were proud to think it worthy of the character of our country. We heard a gallant rebel officer, a prisoner at Camp Chase, say to the U. S. officers stationed there, "I have taken many of your men prisoners, and I have always tried to treat them well, and, if I ever take any more, I shall in my treatment of them remember kindly what I have experienced here. I wish we could give to such of your men as we have in custody as good care as you give us, but this is impossible; we don't have it for ourselves." A short time afterwards we travelled several hundred miles on the cars with two hundred Confederate officers from Camp Chase en route for City Point to be exchanged, and all of them that we talked with bore strong testimony to the kind treatment extended to them in their confinement. And we have heard many prisoners, after having been in the military prison in this city, speak in high commendation of the management of the establishment.

When we heard the extraordinary statement in regard to Fort Delaware, as contrary to everything we had heard previously, we wrote immediately to the commandant of that post and requested him to give us the facts, for we were unwilling that the many Kentucky men and women who had relatives in prison there should be painted by false and distressing reports in regard to their situation and condition. We have received a reply to our letter, and we publish it below:

HEADQUARTERS POST DELAWARE, D. C., July 30, 1863.

Mr. G. D. Prentice, Louisville, Ky.:

Sir: I am directed by the General commanding to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th inst., in which you inquire respecting my complaints of the manner in which the Confederate prisoners (officers) are treated at this Post.

Permit me, Sir, to give you a description of the manner in which we treat the prisoners.

The officers are confined in the interior of the fort, in several rooms, one of which is a very large room, the same size of our own trap-door cellars, and very airy. Commissary bunks were put up in this room, and the prisoners used, and each man has his own bunk.

They have a large dining-room and kitchen provided, with every thing nice, and benches, ranges, cold-rooms, &c., which are thoroughly scrubbed once a day. Their rations are the same as our own soldiers are provided with, all being issued at the same time, and from the same place. We detail certain men from among the officers to cook their cooking, carrying coal, building fires, in fact everything; and all they have to do is to go and eat. The dining-room is large enough to accommodate all the officers.

The other rooms in which the prisoners are confined are not so large as the first mentioned room, but they are situated in the third story facing the parapet of the fort, and they get all the light that can be had, and under a roof, under charge of a room orderly, are required at all times to be kept thoroughly clean.

These rooms contain about twenty men, and are provided with pumps and water pipes.

All windows looking out on the plain are barred; our own men and officers have to put up with it, as will the prisoners. Some few, or at least one, have been allowed to be confined outside the fort, in the barracks; they were not as comfortable as those inside, but they could not be had for them.

The room is well ventilated, has a pump in it, three places to wash—one of which is a cold water pump. It is at the present time occupied by one of our batteries—one hundred and forty-nine men and they do not complain of being crowded; and they are using the same bunks that the prisoners used, and each man has his own bunk.

The quotations that we made yesterday to the Democrat to show the position occupied by the Edito's last year have attracted attention and created no little amusement.

Although our neighbors now think it the most awful thing on record that a few persons believed to be disloyal were prevented from voting, in our late election, for candidates believed to be disloyal, and although they denounce this disaffection, as they call it, as the most terrible of all conceivable blows upon civil liberty, yet it appears that they themselves, a year ago and less, went further, a great deal further, in favor of the disaffection of candidates and voters deemed disloyal by the authorities than anybody else has ever gone.

In their capacity of public teachers, in their character as organs of the administration, they assumed not only that the military powers, if satisfied of men's disloyalty, should prohibit their being voted at the polls, but that, even where two Union men were running against each other, one of whom was believed to have the heavy pecuniary support of the secessionists, the military ought to take the case in hand, and, if convinced of the truth of the charge as to the secession supporters, rule the obnoxious Union candidate off the track, and, without appeal to the law, judge all concerned in jail.

The military authorities didn't go to the lengths a year ago, they have never gone to the lengths, thus advocated by the Editors of the Democrat. Our neighbors, vehement as they were in their opposition to the General Commanding, had at that time the General commanding to bathe twice.

The statement made by the lady that she found her son "in a room with fifty other prisoners, and that at meal times they all had to eat together, though eating the middle of the floor," I must wish all the politeness to her account of sex, deny an utterly untrue.

We feel bound to protest all prisoners with kindness while we carry on our war with firmness, thereby doing justice to the prisoners, ourselves, and our Government.

Thanking you for your kindness in giving me this opportunity to deny the unjust charge against the General Commanding, I have the honor to remain, with much respect, your obedient servant,

J. G. MACCONNELL,

1st Lieut. and Adj't.

Of course we are compelled to concur that the statement of the lady was not correctly reported to us. But, inasmuch as the substance of that statement, resting on her alleged authority, has been pretty extensively circulated in the form in which it came to us, we have thought proper to publish the letter of Adj't Macconnell.

We would invite the very strongest rebel sympathizers in our community to say how, even in their opinion, the treatment of Federal prisoners in Libby Prison and Castle Thunder would compare with that of rebel prisoners at Fort Delaware as detailed by Adj't Macconnell and confirmed by Gen. Schoepf, Brigadier General commanding at that post, in a letter for which we have not room. Let those who want to be shocked at the horrid treatment of prisoners turn their eyes toward rebel and not toward Union prisons. We will set an instance or two before their eyes. Mr. Thompson, sixty years old, a brother of the Hon. Wm. P. Thompson and Mr. N. B. Thompson, was arrested in Memphis for disloyalty to the rebel cause while he held sway in that city. He was kept in prison till he died. Mr. N. B. Thompson addressed a letter to Mr. S. H. Nourse, at Lynn, Mass., who had been his brother's fellow-prisoner, to learn as much as possible in regard to the treatment of the deceased while in captivity and the circumstances of his death. We give a portion of Mr. Nourse's report. The facts detailed are enough to shock and sicken human nature. The curse of God and mankind should rest upon the souls of the perpetrators of such horrible atrocities. The Devil, though the first rebel, was not the worst:

Lynn, July 23, 1863.

Mr. G. B. THOMPSON.—Sir: Your letter of July 1—came to hand in due season. I knew your brother well, who was imprisoned in the same room with him. His last look took the 21st of July, 1862, the very day he was released. He was sick most of the time in our room, but was carried a short time before his death, and was carried to the prison hospital. I do not know if he died of natural causes, but of injuries inflicted by the hand of Halday, as he always appeared to enjoy good bodily health for one old man. His death was caused by the want of medical attendance and the Confederate authorities. He was brought down from Memphis, with 13 others, to Columbus, Miss., where I was then confined with 12 others in the county jail. We were not confined in separate cells, but in a room, open to the second story, inside of which were two dungeons or cells. The dimensions were about 10 ft. by 30. In this small space were 10 of us, crowding together when we were not broiling in the sun, when a blanket spread to lie on, with windows heavily grained, and no glass or sash to keep out the raw, cold March wind, and no stove to help soften the winter cold. I tell you it was a bad disease, ay, a worse disease, than any brother man than my brother. Add to all this an insufficiency of food, either good or bad, and not being allowed to put our feet outside of the door, being compelled to do all our business right in the room. The stench there

was awful. There we were compelled to lay and sleep in the mud, and it was no uncommon thing for our number vomiting from the effects of it. We were afterwards removed to more comfortable quarters, but in another's opinion, was the foundation of your brother's disease, laid, which finally terminated in consumption.

These are but instances of the treatment of Union prisoners at the hands of the rebel authorities. We commend the instances to the attention of the humane and generous people in question.

A meeting is to be held on the 18th inst. at Rochester in the State of New York, "for the purpose of consultation, and taking such action as may be deemed most effective to unite the conservative elements of the country in the approaching presidential campaign. The meeting will be composed of gentlemen invited from the several States on account of their well-known integrity and conservatism—friends of Jackson, Webster, Clay, and Crittenden, who desire to restore the supremacy of the Constitution, with its checks and guarantees, over all the States, and who are opposed to the election to any office in the gift of the people, of any person in political connection or sympathy with secession, abolitionism, or fanaticism of any kind."

Such is the character and purpose of the meeting, as officially defined. And the source of the meeting guarantees the perfect trustworthiness of the official definition. The meeting is called under the auspices of the Constitutional Union party of New York, which assembled in State Convention at Troy last year, nominated Horatio Seymour for the Governorship the day before he was nominated by the Democratic State Convention at Albany, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the neutral position of 1863" exceeds the voting population of 1862 by 65%. It is now asserted that people were not allowed to vote at the late election. Why, the vote was an enormous one under every circumstance in which it can be viewed. When we reflect that a large number of former citizens did not vote last Monday on the 1st of August, 1862, our whole population was at home; that Gen. S. B. Buckner still had his headquarters as his as Inspector General of the State Guard, and was telling us that Gen. McCallum, of the United States Army, and G. W. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, would "respect the

